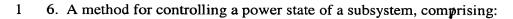
CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for controlling a power state of a subsystem, comprising:
receiving from the subsystem a message; and

setting the power state of the subsystem based on the message.

- 1 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the message is selected from the group
- 2 consisting of a full wakeup, a limited wakeup, a resume previous state, and a status
- 3 request.
- 1 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein setting the power state of the subsystem
- 2 based on the message further comprises acknowledging a received subsystem message.
- 1 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein receiving from the subsystem a message is
- 2 performed without involvement of a main operating system.
- 5. The method according to claim f, wherein setting the power state of the subsystem
- 2 based on the message is performed without involvement of a main operating system.



- 2 receiving from a controller a message; and
- 3 performing an operation based on the message.

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- 7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the message is selected from the group
- 2 consisting of shutdown, synchronize, status request, and reset.
- 1 8. The method according to claim 6, wherein performing an operation based on the
- 2 message further comprises acknowledging a received controller message.
- 9. The method according to claim 6, wherein receiving from a controller a message is
- 2 performed without involvement of a main operating system.
- 1 10. The method according to claim 6, wherein performing an operation based on the
- 2 message is performed without involvement of a main operating system.
- 1 11. The method according to claim 6, wherein performing an operation based on the
- 2 message is substantially performed by the subsystem.

| | 1 | 12. A machine-readable medium having stored thereon instructions, which when |
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| | 2^2 | executed by a processor, causes said processor to perform the following: |
| | 3 | receive input signals; |
| | 4 | communicate with a subsystem; |
| | 5 | determine a desired power state for the subsystem based upon received input |
| | 6 | signals and communications with the subsystem; and |
| | 7 | communicate to the subsystem the desired power state. |
| | | |
| | 1 | 13. The machine-readable medium according to claim 12, wherein receive input signals |
| | 2 | comprises receiving a user initiated signal, or receiving a signal indicative of remaining |
| | 3 | battery capacity, or a combination of receiving a user initiated signal and receiving a |
| | 4 | signal indicative of remaining battery capacity. |
| | | |
| | 1 | 14. The machine-readable medium according to claim 12, wherein communicate with a |
| | 2 | subsystem further comprises the subsystem to acknowledge a communication. |
| | | 1 |

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| 1 | 15. A system, comprising: |
|-----|--|
| _ 2 | an power state controller having an input port, and output port, and a |
| 3 | communications channel; |
| 4 | a user input coupled to the power state controller input port; |
| 5 | an energy monitor signal coupled to the power state controller input port; and |
| 6 | a subsystem coupled to the power state controller output port and the power state |
| 7 | controller communications channel. |
| | |
| 1 | 16. The system of claim 15, wherein the user input is a switch to turn the system on and |
| 2 | off. |
| | |
| 1 | 17. The system of claim 15, wherein the energy monitor signal is indicative of a |
| 2 | remaining battery capacity. |
| | |
| 1 | 18. An apparatus for controlling subsystem power, comprising: |
| 2 | means for receiving input signals; |
| 3 | means for communicating with a subsystem; |
| 4 | means for determining a desired power state for the subsystem based upon the |
| 5 | received input signals and communications with the subsystem; and |
| 6 | means for communicating to the subsystem the desired power state. |
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| l | 19. | The apparatus of | f claim 18, | wherein n | neans for re | ceiving in | put signals cor | nprises |
|---|-----|------------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|------------|-----------------|---------|
| | | | | | | | | |

- 2 means for receiving a user initiated signal, or means for receiving a signal indicative of
- 3 remaining battery capacity, or a combination of means for receiving a user initiated signal
- 4 and means for receiving a signal indicative of remaining battery capacity.
- 1 20. The apparatus of claim 18, wherein means for communicating with a subsystem
- 2 further comprises means for the subsystem to/acknowledge a communication
- 1 21. A computer based system, comprising
- 2 an energy source;
- a monitoring device coupled to the energy source and providing a signal indicative
- 4 of remaining energy capacity;
- a power state controller coupled to the signal indicative of remaining energy
- 6 capacity;
- 7 a subsystem coupled to the power state controller; and
- a communications link coupling the power state controller to the subsystem.
- 1 22. The computer based system according to claim 21, wherein the communications link
- 2 coupling the power state controller to the subsystem comprises a link having lower
- 3 bandwidth than a main system bus in the computer based system.



- 23. The computer based system according to claim 21, wherein the communications link
- is operable without the use of a main operating system.